

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Status of the claims

This action is in response to papers filed August 24, 2009.

The previous rejections in the office action dated February 23, 2009 are withdrawn. Claims 1-11 and 13-16 have been allowed. Claims 1, 12 and 17-23 have been cancelled further in view of a telephone interview with Mr. Skinder on August 31, 2009.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview Mr. Skinder on August 31, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 17-21.

In the claims: No change in the claims 1-11 and 13-16 of August 24, 2009.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Art of the record discussed: Golovchenko et al and Cole et al.

Golovchenko et al teaches a process for fabricating pores on a substrate and further teaches cavities or trenches or slots on the first and second surface. Coles et al teaches a plurality of V-shaped channels on the substrate surface.

However, prior art of the record taken alone or in combination do not suggest or obviate forming at least one first V-shaped channel on the first surface and forming at least one second V-shaped channel on the second surface of a substrate, wherein the first channel and the second channel extend inwardly to define a pore at intersection point. Furthermore, none of the references of the record either teach or suggest use of polymers and crystals to define the size of the pore at the intersection point as recited in the instant claim 13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Claims 1-11 and 13-16 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Narayan K. Bhat whose telephone number is (571)-272-5540. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.30 am to 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James (Douglas) Schultz can be reached on (571)-272-0763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Narayan K. Bhat

Examiner, Art Unit 1634

/BJ Forman/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1634